

10-2012

## Green is Gold Newsletter: October 2012

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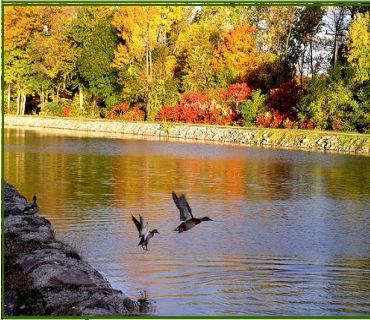
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## Green is Gold

### Fall Highlights

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# GREEN IS GOLD

Brockport's bi-annual update on campus sustainability

## Brockport Celebrates Sustainability

The Green Is Gold initiative is making great strides to decrease our campus ecological footprint; from our **LEED GOLD** Thompson Hall renovation, to the **STARS Silver** rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, to our move in of **23 Green House** students in our Living Learning Community, the campus is showing its **colors**! Be sure to check out our events and share in our many accomplishments. Together we can achieve much!

*"You are never too old to set another goal, or to dream a new dream" -C.S. Lewis*

The Brockport campus gets ready to celebrate its first annual sustainability week!

Here's the program:

<p><b>Sunday</b> (10/21)</p> <p><b>Sustainable bike tour</b></p> <p>Jump on a Fast TRAX bike or your own, and see what Brockport has to offer, including the Main St. Farmer's Market and electronic recycling drop-off locations; <b>Noon</b></p> <p><b>Campus Clean-up</b></p> <p>(weather allowing); free t-shirts and lunch for volunteers! Sign up at <a href="http://www.basc1.org">www.basc1.org</a> <b>2pm-3pm</b></p>	<p><b>Monday</b> (10/22)</p> <p><b>Chalk the Walk!</b></p> <p>Help cover campus sidewalks with sustainable facts; <b>4:30pm</b></p> 	<p><b>Tuesday</b> (10/23)</p> <p><b>Brown Bag Lecture</b></p> <p>Charlie Knauf discusses aquatic invasive species and their impact on New York state's greatest asset—our lakes! Seymour Union, Room 119</p> <p><b>11am—Noon</b></p>  <p><b>STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™</b> Prevent the transport of nuisance species. Clean all recreational equipment. <a href="http://www.ProtectYourWaters.net">www.ProtectYourWaters.net</a></p>	
<p><b>Wednesday</b> (10/24)</p> <p><b>Tabling</b></p> <p>Information and giveaways in the Union Square, Fire-side Lounge. 11:30 – 2:30pm.</p> <p><b>Webinar from Second Nature</b></p> <p><a href="#">“Preparing Students for a Changing Climate”</a> Room 222, Seymour Union 2:00–3:30pm</p>	<p><b>Thursday</b> (10/25)</p> <p><b>Film screening</b></p> <p>Come view “Food Matters”, a sustainability documentary on food. This video will be shown in the Thompson Smart Classroom.</p> <p><b>7:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>Friday</b> (10/26)</p> <p><b>Film Screening</b></p> <p>Grab your pajamas, you appetite and watch the documentary screening of “The Corporation” in the Thompson Smart Classroom.</p> <p><b>8pm</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday</b> (10/27)</p> <p><b>Campus clean-up alternate date</b></p> 

## “Green” Furniture?

### Brockport, Meet Trendway!

Here is a fun fact for those who don't know: all of the furniture in academic buildings on campus is purchased from a certified Carbon neutral company!

Sustainability is one of the foremost objectives at this Trendway; besides official recognition as a Carbon neutral manufacturer in 2011, Trendway meets or exceeds Federal, state, and local regulations and continues to minimize packaging, scrap waste, and en-

ergy usage. Product lifecycle is integrated into Trendway designs, and product packaging excludes harmful VOC (volatile organic compound) adhesives and coatings. Trendway also complies with level 1 sustainability standards for furniture manufacturers (BIFMA e3).

### New Classrooms in Smith Look Good in Green

The newly refurbished Smith Hall is easy on the eyes and conscience!

Both manufacturers used—360° Furniture and Learn2 Furniture—are certified by the Greenguard Environmental Institute. Compliance involves limiting formaldehyde, phthalates, and VOC content in wood treatment—common components in institutional furniture that can increase users' risk of developing endocrine disorders. LEED contributions to the materials used in this furniture include renewable, regional, low-emitting, recycled/recyclable, and FSC certified products.

## Sustainability Success off Campus

### Great Turnout at the Hamlin Beach Cleanup

The 2012 International Coastal Cleanup was a huge success thanks to roughly 175 Brockport students and community members! Nearly 500 pounds of debris were removed from two miles of shoreline. Great job to all who came!



## Residential Life/Learning Communities



Residential Life/Learning Communities is currently helping to sponsor Sustainability Week initiatives, including the t-shirts that will be handed out to student volunteers and prize-winners that week.

### Brockport Welcomes Craig Ross to the Brockport Res Life Community

GG: Craig, could you tell Green is Gold a bit about your education?



CR: Sure; I got my degree in Telecommunications Engineering Technology at RIT, my Master's of Business Administration at SUNY IT, and am currently working toward a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration at the University of Buffalo.

GG: Wow, and acting as the new Associate Director of Res. Life here at Brockport. We know you spent some time working for SUNY Geneseo. Could you tell us a bit about your time and accomplishments there?

CR: I was the Business Manager in the Facilities Services department, and I was the co-chair of the Sustainability Commission. I was responsible for making sure that Geneseo met the requirements for the President's Climate Commitment.

I am proud of two things that I accomplished at Geneseo. First I was responsible for performing the first greenhouse gas inventory. Second, we were able to enhance the status of the Sustainability Task Force to the Sustainability Com-

mission, which reported directly to the college president, Dr. Christopher Dahl. However, the Sustainability Commission co-chair Dr. Kristina Hannam deserves a majority of the credit for that accomplishment!

GG: What is one thing you would like to see happen at The College at Brockport in terms of sustainability?

C.R. I understand that Brockport is planning on performing a greenhouse gas inventory. I would really like to be a part of this process, and it would be great if we could include the students from the “Green House” Living Learning Community. It would be a transformational experience for them to learn more about the campus's impact on the environment.

GG: One more question, Craig: what are your main duties as the Associate Director of Residential Life/Learning Communities?

CR: My two primary roles are budget and facilities.

# Brockport Auxiliary Service Corporation (BASC)



## Join the UMug Club!

Students, faculty, and staff can get a great deal on beverages at Union Square Food Court while saving waste by joining the UMug Club. Purchase your membership at Union Square for \$30 and receive a free travel mug along with four weeks of unlimited refills of all fountain beverages and hot drinks at Union Square.

## Pride of New York Dinner (Sept. 27)

On September 27, Brockway and Harrison Dining Halls hosted their second annual Pride of New York dinner featuring foods from New York State farms including:

Red Jacket Orchard (Geneva)  
Bolton Farm (Hilton)  
Brigiotta Farms (Jamestown)  
Deconick Farms (Spencerport)

## Intergrow Greenhouse (Albion)

## Farm to Table Dinner (Oct. 4)

A group of students, faculty, and staff experienced an outdoor harvest meal, chef-prepared over an open fire using the freshest, local ingredients. This event, coordinated by Dining Services, was held in the fields at Robb Farms in Spencerport as part of Dining Services' initiative to help educate the campus community about where our food comes from.

## Campus Sustainability Week

(Oct. 21-27)

BASC has helped to plan some fantastic events to promote sustainability on campus!

Take a bike tour of sustainability in Brockport on Sunday and/or volunteer to participate in a campus

clean-up. Learn more and sign up to participate in the clean up at [www.basc1.org](http://www.basc1.org). Volunteers will receive a t-shirt!

Keep an eye out for BASC representatives tabling in Seymour College Union: enter a raffle for a free membership to the UMug club and learn about BASC's sustainability initiatives.

## America Recycles Day (11/15)

Get ready to get involved with BASC's recycling initiatives November 15!

Visit [www.BASC1.org](http://www.BASC1.org) to:

- ☐ Learn more about the UMug Club
- ☐ Become a Fast TRAX member
- ☐ Sign up for the campus clean-up



## Fast Trax Bike Borrowing Program

**Fast Trax Bike Borrowing just got faster!**

### Partnership with the Department of Computer Science improves program and offers students workplace experience

Dr. Mitra and students in the Department of Computer Science have worked with the Fast TRAX program to develop efficient, user friendly software for the bike-borrowing program.

It was an intensive project. According to Dr. Mitra, eight students spent about 235 hours each (1,880 total) in the development, testing and customer interaction aspects of this project. Users can now register online and manage their account by monitoring rentals and charges.

One of the student developers involved in this project accepted a position as a developer with IBM and later told Fast Trax "...I can honestly say that the Fast Trax application is what got me the job. Having real-world project experience and teamwork really sparked [my employer's] interest and made it easy for me to impress them. The Fast Trax project was extremely valuable in my job hunting quest. It was the major factor that set me apart from other applicants. If possible, all Com-

puter Science and specifically Software Development students should have the opportunity to participate in such a project. Being able to apply skills learned in previous classes into a working application for a real work customer was extremely beneficial. This class provided vital insight into what to expect if you are looking to become a software developer in the real world."

Fast Trax is thrilled with the highly efficient software system developed by the Previously, the administration of the bike borrowing—including all tracking of inventory, membership, and bike usage—was done manually.

### ...So how do I borrow a bike now?

Students, faculty, and staff can now register online to become a Fast TRAX member. Go to <http://www.brockport.edu/parking/transportation/bike/> to sign up. Then, check your inbox for a confirmation email with further instructions. In two business days, use your ID card at any hub location to check out a bike for up to 24 hours!

### Let's give a shout out...

BASC and the Fast Trax program would like to thank Dr. Mitra and students Zack Hine, Eric Hine, Jeff Appis, and Brian Burgay for the software de-

velopment, and Dr. Kamal and students Patrick Aldrich and Lucas Bettcker, for the Web page design.

### A Few Words From Fast Trax

#### Fast Trax is accepting bike donations!

As the popularity of the bike borrowing program grows on campus, Fast Trax would like to alert the campus to the need for useable bikes. Please contact Johnna at [frosini@brockport.edu](mailto:frosini@brockport.edu) if you have a gently used bike you would like to get rid of.

#### Please allow Fast Trax to offer loaned bikes free of charge to students and faculty

This year, we saw an incredible increase in bikes needing repair due to reckless and irresponsible behavior. One bike was stolen as well. We would like to continue to offer this program at no cost to members; as a borrower, you can help ensure the continuation of this program simply by being conscious to responsible riding.





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## Campus Recycling Update

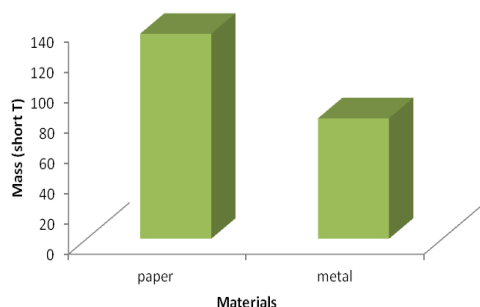


Figure 1. Recycling totals for the Brockport campus for the past year (August 2011-July 2012)

NOTE: 1 short ton=2000 lbs.



Thanks for reading, and have a great semester! Look for the next issue of Green is Gold before winter break.

## Energy Use on The College at Brockport campus



Good news! **Natural gas** usage was down from this past winter (2011-2012) compared to the previous winter (2010-2011).

In the 2010-2011 academic year, use of natural gas topped 146,316.2 dekatherms versus only 115,342.6 dekatherms used in 2011-2012. Good job campus. Looks like those Energy Star appliances are working!

The **Solar panels** installed on the Chapman Building are up and running. Since the initial installation, the solar production of the photovoltaic solar panels have captured almost **50,000 kWh of energy!** Not bad for only seven months of data. The panels have a yearly capacity of 87,000kWh and we are on track to max out our energy load. What a great idea!



Spending on electricity **was reduced** last year. The campus yielded an \$870,682 **electricity** bill last year based on campus usage. This was down from the \$978,751 in electricity purchased the previous year (2010-2011), but up from the 2009-2010 bill of \$806,030. Energy use has remained fairly constant across all years with a total kWh use of 23,944,766kWh in 2011-2012, 23,930,625kWh in 2010-2011 and 23,203,791kWh in 2009-2010. Remember to always turn off equipment and non-essential items. We can all reduce this electricity use. Try purchasing a power-strip to turn everything off at once. It all adds up!

## Upcoming Sustainability Events

The School of Business Administration and Economics along with the Faculty Learning Community will host the 'Conversation in the Disciplines', a SUNY program designed to bring together State University faculty and visiting scholars to examine new trends, review promising findings and provide professional development opportunities in their fields and on other campuses. This year, the grant was awarded to the College at Brockport to host the conference entitled: *Environmental, Economic, and Social Sustainability: An Interdisciplinary Approach*. The event will be held just in time for Earth Day (well, close) and will host speakers from SUNY Central and from such SUNY schools as Binghamton, ESF, University at Buffalo, Albany, as well as representatives from the National Science Foundation and Environmental Protection Agency. Mark your calendars for **April 20th, 2013**, and get ready for a day of innovation and development!



## 2012 Fall Sustainability Series hosted by Nixon Peabody, LLP

Nixon Peabody, LLP will provide sustainability professionals continued development in the area of sustainability through education, resources and collaboration with other local and global organizations to continuously evolve best practices.

**Series One:** "Building Your Sustainability Plan". Speaker: Carolyn Kaplan, Chief Sustainability Officer, Nixon Peabody, LLP 10/2/12

**Series Two:** "Building Your Budget Case for Sustainable Projects" (Panel) 10/24/12

**Series Three:** "Measuring Your Progress Quantitatively and Qualitatively" (Expert Panel) 11/13/12

**Series Four:** "Reporting and Auditing" (Expert Panel) 12/11/12

To RSVP call Sara Sweet, MBA at (585) 336-2263. [ssweet@rochestermidland.com](mailto:ssweet@rochestermidland.com)

The **Sustainability Task Force** is comprised of over 35 members of the campus community, including faculty, staff and students tasked with bringing sustainability initiatives and progressive ideas to the campus. If you have an idea or wish to be apart of this growing initiative, contact [hmosher@brockport.edu](mailto:hmosher@brockport.edu).

